

City Manager's



Weekly Update Friday, March 21, 2008

Notes of interest:

Lodi conference: About 70 people from all over California met at Hutchins Street Square this week to be the first exposed to the new "Maintenance Technical Advisory Guide" (MTAG). This guide was first produced by Caltrans 15 to 20 years ago. The Federal Highway Administration liked it so much that they had adopted it and have distributed it nationally. Caltrans has just completed the first updating of the MTAG and sought to unveil it here in Lodi for its first review. The workshop addressed riveting topics such as pavement rehabilitation and pavement preservation for rigid AND flexible pavements. Some of Lodi's Public Works employees attended and will share information with fellow employees.

Library poll: The library has joined the statewide Zogby Poll this month to collect information about how Californians are finding and using information in libraries. The online poll (www.lodi.gov/library) is in English and Spanish. If the Lodi Library receives 75 responses or more, the library will receive poll data specific to its patrons. The California State Library is sponsoring the poll.

Community Development: A recruiting brochure for a new community development director has been put together by Alliance Resource Consulting. Candidates must apply by April 18.

Choice of day camps: Hutchins Street Square and Parks & Recreation both offer day camps to Lodi Unified children who are on spring break. The Park & Recreation program is held at Legion Park for \$110 per week (\$220 for both weeks). Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. The "March Madness" two-week camp at Hutchins Street Square is \$254 for Lodi residents and \$260 for nonresidents. Hours are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Staff reported that some parents dropped children off for the Parks and Recreation program at Hutchins Square and vis-a-vis.

Railroad Avenue housing: The City is getting closer to a deal with Union Pacific for the Railroad Avenue senior housing project, with a purchase agreement in the works. Also moving forward is a purchase agreement between the City and the developer, PAM. The intention is to get the project to the City Council this spring, giving PAM site control in time to apply for tax credits prior to the July 2008 deadline. If this deadline is missed, PAM will need to wait until March 2009.

Mobile food vendors: The City has received 13 requests for permits to operate lunch wagons in Lodi. Staff believes that is all of the 13 currently in the City. Permits have not yet been approved. Eleven of the wagons operate within 200 feet of a residential property, and comments from those neighbors are being solicited. There have not been any discussions with push-cart or ice-cream vendors.